

Managing Unsolicited Donations and Undesignated Cash in Disasters



Objectives

1. Describe why cash donations are more economically feasible than donated goods.
2. List and define locations required
3. Define requirements for collection centers.
4. Describe why cash is the best of all potential donations.
5. Discuss the process for referring cash donations to appropriate funds.

Unsolicited Donations

10 Worst Things to donate after a disaster



Used Clothing



Shoes



Blankets



Teddy Bears (Toys)



Medicine



Pet supplies



Mixed Items



Canned Food and Bottled Water



Unsolicited Help



Money to the Wrong People



Why Cash is More Economical







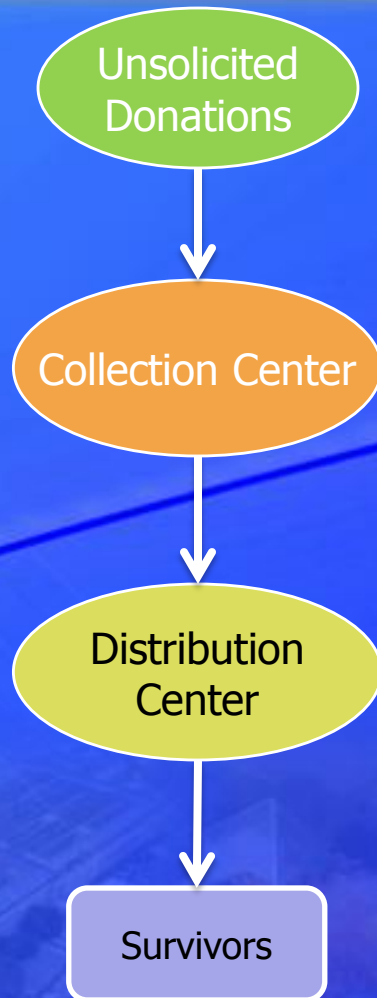
Reality is ...

Even though you “just say no ...”



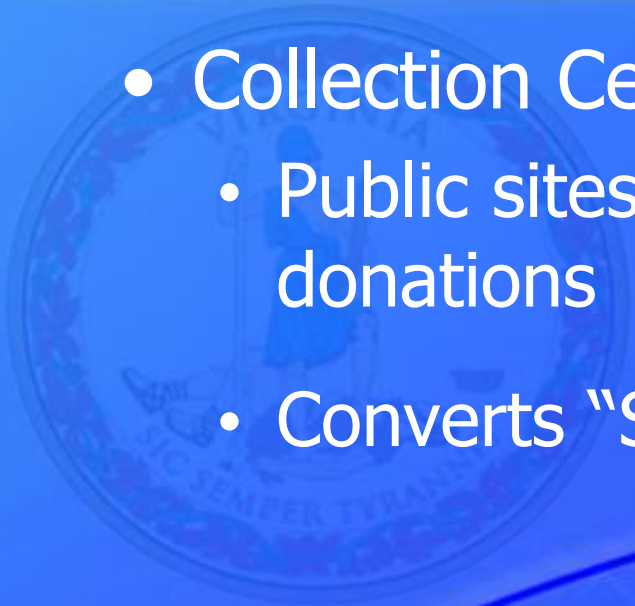
goods will still come and a facility to manage those goods may be required.

“Donations Supply Chain”



Facilities

- Collection Centers
 - Public sites for collecting unsolicited donations
 - Converts “Stuff” to “Goods”





Surplus

Trash

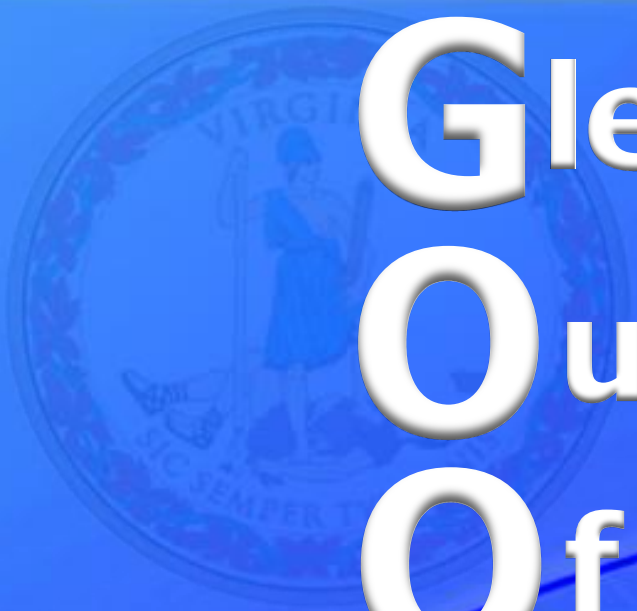
Useless to

Frantic

Folks

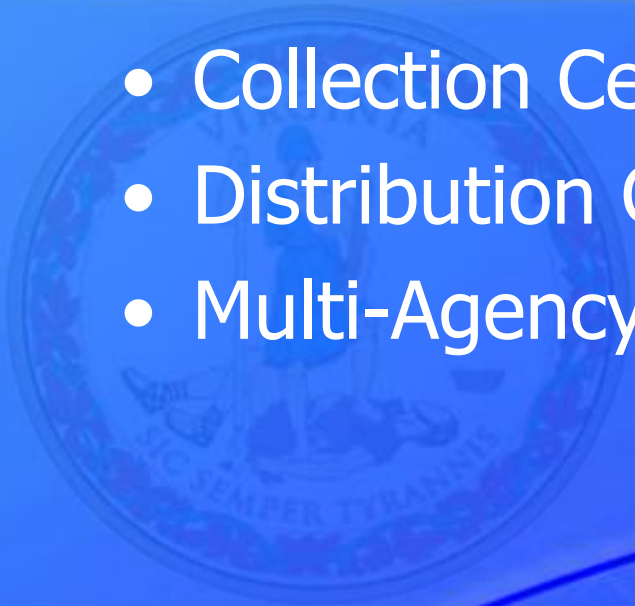


Gleanings Out Of Donated Stuff



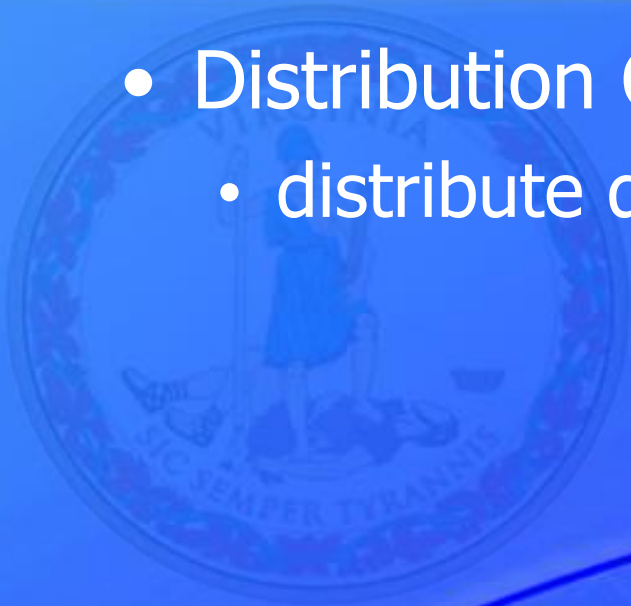
Facilities

- Collection Centers
- Distribution Centers
- Multi-Agency Warehouse



Facilities

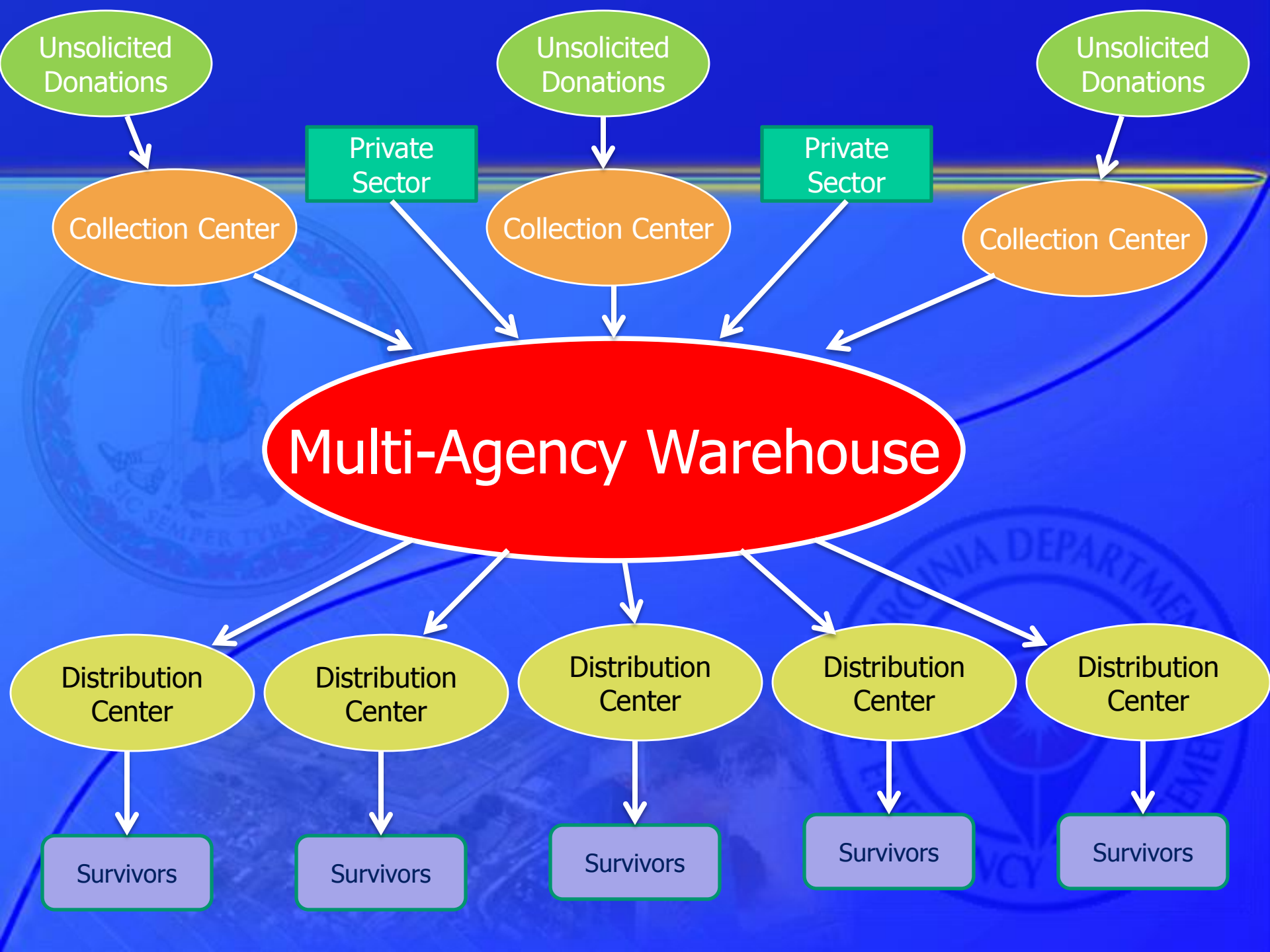
- Distribution Centers
 - distribute donated goods to the public.



Facilities

- Multi-Agency Warehouse
 - used to receive, unload, sort, inventory, and move unsolicited donations to distribution center.
 - Also to receive, inventory and move solicited donations for NGO use





Pulling it all together ...

Preparedness

- Know your team
- Establish MOUs
- Include SOPs
- Develop triggers for action
- Manage public education



Pulling it all together ...

Response

- Activating the plan ...
- Public information
- Information management
- Matching needs
- Making changes as needed
- Monitoring staffing
- Working toward recovery
- Demobilizing



Pulling it all together ...

Recovery

- For the long haul ...
- Making the transition
- Transferring management
- Appealing to public for long term
- Thanking donor
- Establishing After-Action process



What's In Your Annex?

Does your annex:

- Procedures for handling an influx of unsolicited goods?
- List a mechanism(s) for locating collection and distribution centers?
- Designate people responsible for unsolicited goods?
- Criteria for opening and closing collection and distribution centers?

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Questions

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Undesignated Cash



Cash is Preferred

- Helps voluntary agencies meet precise needs
- Helps rebuild local economy
- Allows for:
 - Equitable disbursement procedures
 - Standard accounting procedures
- Provides support for Long-Term Recovery Committees
- Is more efficient to inventory cash than stuff

Which Cash Recipients Are Best?

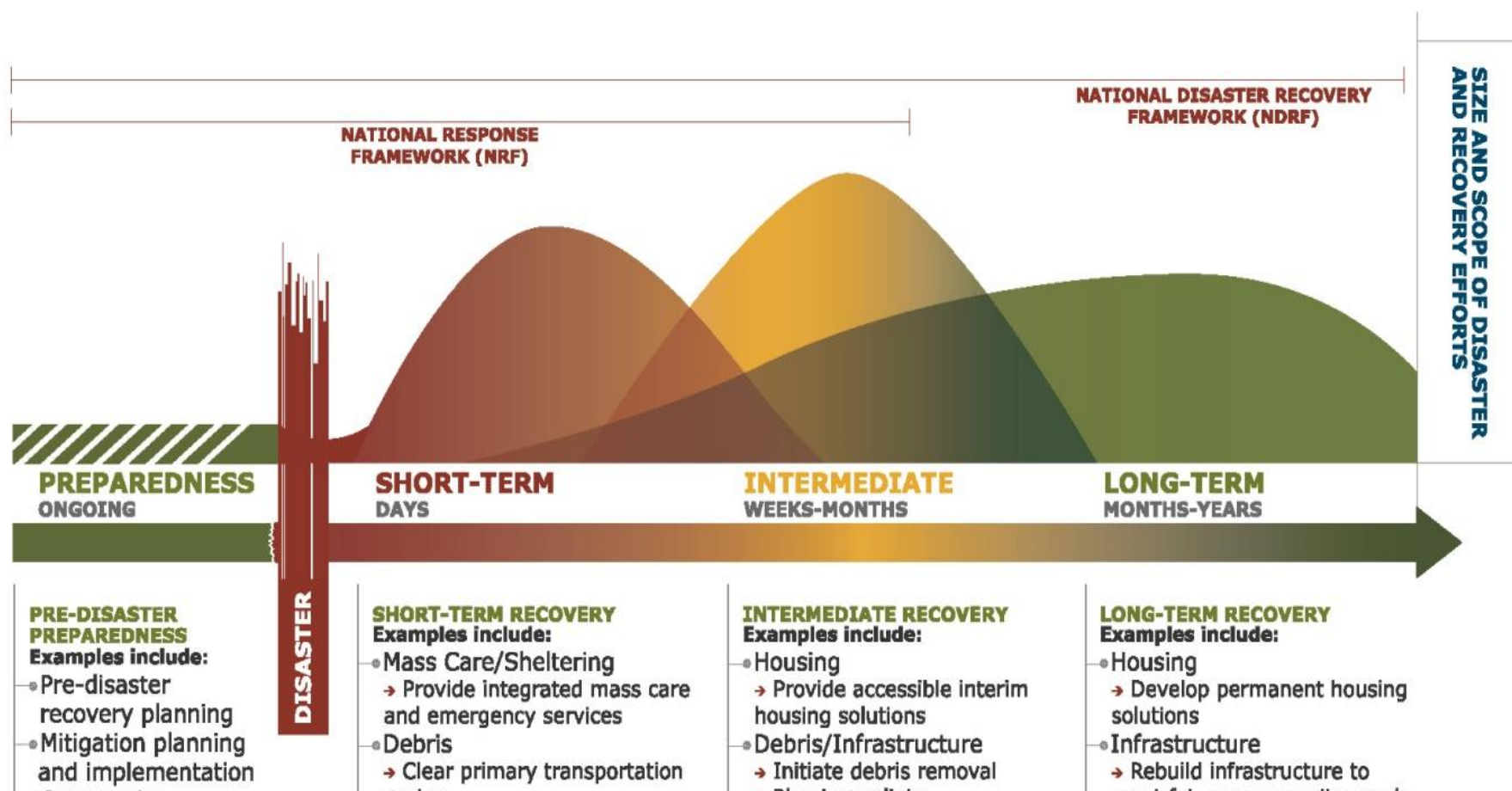
- National VOAD guidelines
 - Always encourage donations to VOAD organizations active in the response efforts
- Many organizations have existing Disaster Relief Funds
- Mayor or Chief Executive may decide to create a “Disaster Relief Fund”
 - Provides potential donors with another option for giving to help meet immediate and/or long-term needs of disaster survivors

Voluntary Organizations versus Local Government Fund

- Management
 - Organization has pre-determined staffing; Local Government might not
- Processes
 - Organization has established processes; Local Government has to develop
- Disbursement of funds
 - Organization has established guidelines; Local Government has to develop
- Accountability
 - Organization knows when and what needs to be reported to the IRS, donors, etc. and when it should be reported; Local Government might not

Cash and Long-Term Recovery

FIGURE 1. RECOVERY CONTINUUM – DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES BY PHASE



Cash and Long-Term Recovery

- Funds may go into an account
 - Ministerial association
 - United Way
 - Other non-profit organizations
- Funds can then be directed to non-profits involved in long-term recovery efforts

What's In Your Annex?

Does your annex:

- State assumptions about cash?
- Discuss a policy for preference for cash?
- Specify a process for referring cash donations to various voluntary organizations?

Summary

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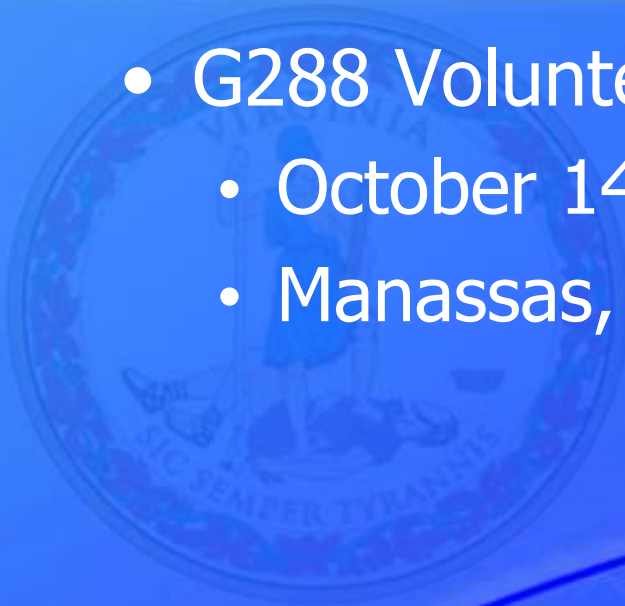
Questions

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Additional Training

- G288 Volunteer and Donations Management
 - October 14-15, 2014
 - Manassas, VA



Contact Information

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Survey

Thank You

